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November 5, 2001

TO: Examiner Karen Canella
Group 1642
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GROUP 1600FAX NO: (703) 308-4242# OF PAGES (incl. cover): 8

Re: U.S. Serial No. 09/778,963, filed February 8, 2001
Entitled "ISOLATED HUMAN RAS-LIKE PROTEINS, NUCLEIC ACID
MOLECULES ENCODING THESE HUMAN RAS-LIKE PROTEINS, AND
USES THEREOF"

A Preliminary Amendment (Restriction Election) and a Statement Regarding Duty of Disclosure in the above-identified application follows. No fee is due for this filing.

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Elect / Andie B #18
J 11/6/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: NEELAM et al.

Art Unit: 1642

Serial No.: 09/778,963

Examiner: K. Canella

Filed: February 8, 2001

Atty. Docket: CL001112

For: ISOLATED HUMAN RAS-LIKE
PROTEINS, NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES
ENCODING THESE HUMAN RAS-LIKE
PROTEINS, AND USES THEREOF

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

By Facsimile

Sir:

This is in response to an Office communication mailed October 30, 2001 in which a restriction requirement was issued for the above referenced application.

By way of response, Applicants hereby elect claim group III, claims 4-6, 8-11, and 22-23, directed to nucleic acid molecules, vectors, host cells, etc., for examination and have canceled claims corresponding to the non-elected groups I-II, IV-V, and VII.

However, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the claim division and include claim 13 in the elected group. Specifically, the point of novelty of claim 13 is the nucleic acid molecules of the claim from which it depends, claim 5. The dependent claim 13 provides a specific use (method of detecting a nucleic acid of claim 5) of the subject matter and it is believed that examination of this claim would not unduly burden the Examiner with additional review issues.